

Application of: Leo S. Chang and Matthew Mucklo
Serial No.: 10/672,236
Filed: September 25, 2003
Reply to Office Action of January 3, 2008

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the following discussions, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-23 are currently pending in the application. No claims have been amended, canceled or added herewith.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-23 were rejected under various combinations that included U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0050164 (hereinafter "the '164 publication") and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0120722 (hereinafter "the '722 publication"), either alone or in combination with at least one other reference. However, neither the '164 publication nor the '722 publication constitute prior art against the present application.

As confirmed on the Official Filing Receipt, this application is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial Number 09/524,046 which was filed March 13, 2000 which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/021,331 which was filed February 10, 1998. Thus, even ignoring the effective date of the earliest application, this application is at least entitled to the benefit of the filing date of its immediate parent application (U.S. Application Serial Number 09/524,046, filed March 13, 2000). Accordingly, neither the '164 publication (allegedly having an effective filing date of May 18, 2000) nor the '722 publication (filed December 20, 2001) constitute prior art against the present application. Accordingly, since all rejections are based on at least one of those two references, all the rejections in the outstanding Office Action are improper and should be withdrawn.

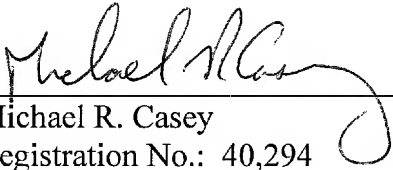
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Consequently, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome and the pending claims are in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

CHARGE STATEMENT: Deposit Account No. 501860, order no. 2689-0004.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee specifically authorized hereafter, or any missing or insufficient fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith or concerning any paper filed hereafter, and which may be required under Rules 16-18 (missing or insufficiencies only) now or hereafter relative to this application and the resulting Official Document under Rule 20, or credit any overpayment, to our Accounting/ Order Nos. shown above, for which purpose a duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

This CHARGE STATEMENT does not authorize charge of the issue fee until/unless an issue fee transmittal sheet is filed.

<p>CUSTOMER NUMBER 42624</p>	<p>Respectfully submitted,</p> <p>By: </p> <p>Michael R. Casey Registration No.: 40,294</p>
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